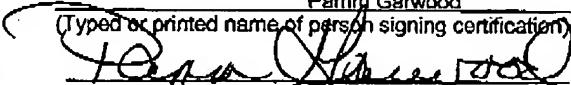


Serial No. 10/645,089

PATENT

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.	
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Hartley et al.

Atty. Docket No.: PA-5340-RFB

Customer No.: 9896

Serial No.: 10/645,089

Group Art Unit: 3736

Filed: August 21, 2003

Examiner: Rene T. Towa

Title: VARIABLE STIFFNESS ATRAUMATIC GUIDE WIRE

MAIL STOP RCE
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 28, 2007, Applicants submit a Request for Continued Examination along with a Preliminary Amendment. The Applicants thank Examiners Towa and Hindenburg for the telephonic interview on February 26, 2008 and hereby submit the following amendments to the claims. The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of the claims and to grant allowance of this Application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks being on page 7.